

Bering Sea Habitat Conservation
Council Motion June 12, 2006

The Council adopts the following alternatives and options for analysis:

Alternative 1: status quo

Alternative 2: Open area approach utilizing fishing data through 2005 to define area

Option 1: Include the areas north of Bogoslof, south of Nunivak Island in the open area, and the 10 minute strip in the Red King Crab Savings Area.

Alternative 3: Require gear modifications on all bottom flatfish trawl gear to reduce seafloor contact and/or increase clearance between the gear and substrate.

Alternative 4: Open area approach utilizing fishing data through 2005 to define area, plus require gear modifications on all bottom flatfish trawl gear to reduce seafloor contact and/or increase clearance between the gear and substrate.

Option 1: include the areas north of Bogoslof and south of Nunivak Island in the open area, and the 10 minute strip in the Red King Crab Savings Area.

Additionally, the Council requests the crab plan team meet to consider additional crab protection areas for St. Matthew blue king crab and Bering Sea opilio crab, and make recommendations to the Council at the October meeting. Based on these recommendations, the Council may consider changes to the 'open area' alternatives or possible designation as HAPC in the future.